Situation and Invitation to Share Ideas

Definition

The RADAC system is defined to be the system which accepts radar data (or other types of data) and processes it for display in the Range Control Center. Thus it includes components starting at the NASCOM interface to the Encore systems, and continuing through the Silicon Graphics display units. It also includes the PC's which perform similar functions in the control center. For purposes of this discussion, data reduction functions can be included as part of the RADAC system.

Situation

The RADAC system is vintage 1980 hardware and is expensive to maintain.

Operating system limitations make modification of some software applications difficult.

Some customers require more than the current targets to be displayed.

The system is not flexible enough to handle some requirements, such as running a simulated mission, while simultaneously tracking surveillance aircraft.

Different types of data (RADAR, TM, GPS) require different interfaces.

The number of personnel required to operate the system is excessive.

The current data reduction system is tied to the RADAC system through hardware similarity and operating system similarity.

Invitation

You are invited to share your ideas and concepts as a means to refine (or redefine) the above situation and formulate some design decisions. The ground rules are as follow:

1. There are no ground rules.
2. Out-of-box thinking is encouraged - be creative.
3. No idea is "too far out" to be considered.
4. An idea such as "John Doe would have some good input for us" is strongly encouraged.

You will not be required to defend your idea - so shed your inhibitions, but leave your ego behind.